A Message From the Grand Master - -

Templary Is On The March

No one can sit at the Grand Master's desk, or travel about the Grand Encampment visiting Grand Commanderies, and Department Workshop Conferences, and deal with thousands of letters and reports day after day, without concluding that Templary is definitely on the march! With 3 top Line Officers and 7 able Department Commanders, the Grand Master is in constant touch with every part of Grand Encampment activities.

A new spirit animates our beloved Order of Knighthood. Letters and reports from countless sources tell the story of keener interest in carrying out the program laid down in "Charting the Course." An interesting side-light is the simple matter of answering correspondence which has become more prompt at all levels.

The 150th Birthday Celebration is by far the most popular program which Templary ever launched. State and local Committees are enthusiastic. Large Sesquicentennial Classes of candidates are being formed everywhere. The main Sesquicentennial Celebration in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City on Saturday, June 18, 1966, gives evidence of making history.

A year ago the Knight Templar Magazine was lucky to count 14,000 subscribers. Now our splendid monthly publication has nearly double that number. Letters from all over the Templar World praise the new format and the excellent contents of each issue.

As late as June, 1965, we had garnered only 4,100 Life Sponsors for the Knight Templar Eye Foundation. Six months later we will end the year with over 7,500 Life Sponsors, and we have processed over 10,000 applications for assistance as of November 15, 1965.

General Orders No. 10 and No. 11 have awakened all of us to the need to rejuvenate dormant Commanderies and to stop suspensions, which have been neutralizing all the inspired work of faithful membership Committees.

These are only a few of the reasons why your Grand Master is so cheerful about the progress of Templary in 1965. However, there is still time in December to keep improving the record of tangible achievements. Let's keep up the momentum!

Christmas is ahead of us, with its gripping appeal. Let us join in a prayer of gratitude for our beloved Order of Knighthood and its program. Let us proclaim with jubilant hearts the birthday of the King of Kings. Let us vow to work even harder than ever to justify our calling as Christian Masons who joyfully serve under the banner of the Great Captain of our Salvation.
Christmas Toast

To Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucker,
Most Eminent Grand Master:

Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the heavenly light.
—James Montgomery, 1816

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) * To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. * And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. * And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.—St. Luke, Chapter 2, 4-8.

Thus was established the Kingdom of Christ. Thus was fulfilled the good news foretold by Isaiah: “Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

Though it be true that mankind now lives in distraught times, as witness the many fronts which are at war—nation against nation, the antichrist against the gospel ideology, crime elements and corruptive influences against the forces of decency and godliness—there is room for gladness, for gratitude, in the hearts of committed men, women and children wherever gathered.

Transcendent joy, and thanks to the Almighty, are assuredly in order as once again, at Christmas, the human race—and this without distinction—is given one more chance, its golden opportunity, to envision the promised rendezvous in Paradise. This is the warranty sublime which the anniversary of Christ’s humble birth 20 centuries ago in the Bethlehem stable vouchsafes.

Knights Templar—as Christians especially charged by solemn and irrevocable obligation to follow Christ—dare not, and will not, minimize the importance and the meaning of Immanuel’s birth. They are pledged to carry His banner fearlessly into the mainstream of life.

Indeed, they are His apostles—and are so commissioned—in this 20th Century. They have vowed at altar and in the communion cup an absoluteness in fidelity and service to Him which brooks no reservation. Templary may well be the shock troops, the battle corps, or host, to make decisive in our time the Armageddon victory.

Christmas is more significant in 1965—if this be possible—than it was in Herod’s day. Interminable centuries, the testimony of Holy Writ, the signs, the omens and the witnessed confirmation of the Royal Birth to which the Voice from Heaven, the angel chorus, the lowly shepherds and the princely Magi gave wondrous attest—
these make compelling the Christ Way as man’s only hope for peace, for well-being and for salvation.

Most Eminent Grand Master, the responsible leadership which is marshaled in the Order of Knights Templar—the body of which gives full allegiance to you—would share the anxiety which is yours as you strive with might and main, and the eloquence of voice and logic, to make purposeful the dedication of Templary’s soul to God and country through Jesus Christ.

It bids you to continue to exhort Sir Knights and their households to Christian duty and high challenge. We pray that you grow not weary, nor discouraged, in the great crusade to which the Triune God has called you in a climactic period in history.

This is the season when mankind, if consecrated, stands up to be counted.

Courteously submitted,
The Committee on Religious Activities

BURT D. PEARSON, P.G.C., Chairman

GRAND MASTER’S RESPONSE

To the Christmas Toast of 1965

Your Grand Master agrees that humanity currently abides in a period of besetting difficulties. However, the greater the peril, the greater is the challenge, and the more pressing is the duty to wield aloft the sword of Christendom, of Templary, in the moral and spiritual cause proclaimed to the world nearly 20 centuries ago in Christ’s birth.

Templary deserves well among men because it shares with the Christian Church a fidelity to Him whose birth was heralded to simple shepherds and to the wise men by heavenly declaration and a star these many years ago.

I would that Templary might in its collective affirmation emulate St. John — the Baptist — of whom the angel Gabriel did say: “He (John) shall go before Him (Jesus) in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people for the Lord.”

The moral and spiritual foundations on which Templary’s edifice stands are the bedrock of our Republic and the passport by which the dedicated Christian enters the gates of the Kingdom. The high call in this time in history pleads for a quickening and expanding of the moral and spiritual horizons. Heavenly voices — the Christmas Message — come to us above the din and the violence of contemporary discord and evil.

Your Grand Master covets for all of Templary, for its thousands of members—and households—an epochal role in the exciting enterprise of carrying the banners of Christ into every community in the land, thus revitalizing His Church and enlarging the dimensions of the ministry enjoined upon the faithful. I would—if so permitted—commit Knights Templar everywhere to the spiritual and moral revolution in our time.

As Knights Templar—as Crusaders in a demanding present—we ignore at our peril the missionary opportunity which the Christ-
mas observance in 1965 connotes. We have been pledged at Christ’s altar. We have supped at His communion table. Jesus Christ is calling for dedicated and disciplined followers through whom He can work in bringing to full tide the moral and spiritual revolution ordained by God.

The tidings which came out of the first Christmas are the inspiration of the Christian Church and of Templary. Every good impulse was either born or reinvigorated in the manger birth of the “Great Captain of Our Salvation.” This is the essence of the ever-new Message of Christmas, the good news for all who will receive it.

My earnest wish, my solemn prayer, is that this Christmas, and those yet to come, Sir Knights will lead their families to Christian religious services—in church and asylum—so that Templary shall make a full contribution to the worship theme to which its membership is pledged in Christ. In so doing, we but discharge in part our obligations to Him who is “the Way, the Truth and the Life.”

May the Holy Trinity bless you and yours as together we prepare the Order of Knights Templar for exalted tasks in a continuation of the noble crusade—in His name—which gave it birth. Let us keep holy and irrevocable our sacred covenant!

In Christmas Good Will,
WILBER M. BRUCKER,
Grand Master
Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A.

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Lord of all our days, we thank thee especially for this sacred season when we celebrate the birth of Christ our Lord. We are grateful for this holy time with its gladness and melody, its wholesome ways of kindness, its contagion of good cheer. Not even the dark clouds of conflict that cover parts of our earth can blot out the light of the Star of Bethlehem, nor the noise of hostility still the song of the angels. In this darkest of the seasons of the year it is a joy to remember the birth of a baby who grew up to be “Immanuel”—God with us.

Help us to remember that there was “no room in the inn” for the Prince of Light, that we may not share the ancient thoughtlessness, but may make ever larger room in our hearts for the Great Captain. Give us, O God, both the humility of the shepherds and the wisdom of the Magi that we may feel the loving heart-throbs of Him who was born a baby in Bethlehem’s stable. O God, may the same holy compassion that led thee to send Thy beloved Son to save us, move us to deeds of mercy, of sympathy, of friendship, that all may feel that the heart and hands of Christ are busy still. May it be our high privilege to help in creating the radiant Christmas music which is the mercy laughter of needy children. As the light of the Holy Star shines down once more let all Sir Knights arise brave and zealous and obedient to Thee, ready for greater service; for we pray in His Name who was a child and a man and Thy Son. Amen.

—Dr. Howard R. Towne, G.P.
Tyranny Still Trembles Before The Christmas Truth

By DR. HOWARD R. TOWNE

Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment, K.T. of the U.S.A.

“When Jesus was born in Bethlehem—in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men came to Jerusalem saying, ‘Where is he that is born king of the Jews?’ And when Herod the king heard it, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.”—MATTHEW 2:2.

What was so disturbing about the birth of a son to a Jewish carpenter and his wife in a stable in Bethlehem in the days of Herod the king? What could be more common than animals in a stable, straw on the ground, a manger cradle—more ordinary than a baby? Very few realized that this child was destined to change the course of history—that men and nations from that time on would reckon time with respect to the moment of his birth, B.C. and A.D. Perhaps the most important message I can bring at this season is a lesson as to why Herod was troubled when he heard the good news. The narrative says, that when King Herod heard the news, “he was troubled.” The word means literally, “trembled,” “and all Jerusalem with him.”

Now after 1965 years tyrants are still on the thrones of this world, as they were in those days. And we are certain that the tyrants are still trembling. Names change as history is written. We may not call them tyrants now. But they have the things that are common to all tyrants. They rule by arbitrary power. They hold their power, more in fear than in confidence, and they always tremble in the presence of anything that pertains to the Truth of God.

Why did Herod tremble? The story says, that he did so when the wise men came and asked, “Where is he that is born king of the Jews?” But that was not when Herod began to tremble. That only increased the tempo. That was not when fear first gripped him. Their questions only awakened the fear already in his heart that sometime, someone, would arise to overthrow him. In order to realize how Herod felt, let us look into his heritage and history for a moment.

In the time of the Maccabees a man devoid of principle named Antipas came into prominence. He rendered unusual service to the Roman Emperor during the Roman Egyptian campaign. Whereupon Caesar complimented him for his services and made him governor of Galilee. The Herod that the Wise men confronted was the youngest son of Antipas. After his father’s death he was appointed to the governorship. Young Herod, however, was not content just to take over his father’s title. He took costly presents with him and a flattering tongue and went to pay his respects to Augustus Cae- sar. And by a wise use of both, the title of “King of the Jews” was conferred upon him and he returned with new power to Palestine.

Herod’s rule was cruel and tyrannical and yet marked by considerable cleverness. Having suppressed a rebellion against him, he installed himself in Jerusalem and built an imposing palace on Mt. Zion to impress his Jewish subjects. Then as a bribe, to secure the backing of the pharisees and priests, he set out to build a magnificent new Temple. It took 46 years to complete it.

As Herod grew older, however,
he became moody and morose. He discovered plots where they did not exist. He could trust no one, even as none trusted him. So, when tidings were brought to him that One had been born "King of the Jews," it caused a panic in his breast. Herod saw the child as one to be feared—and well he might. Wrong-doers are always troubled by Jesus. Jesus is always a disturber especially of evil people. Let us look at some of the deeds of Herod. Jealous of the beauty of Marianne, his wife, Herod had her killed, lest she should marry again after his death. He had killed on one pretext or another both her parents, her brother, her uncle and grandfather. Two of his sons were strangled by his orders and a third executed for supposed treachery. This explains a quip of his imperial highest, Augustus Caesar. Caesar said, "I would rather be one of Herod’s swine than one of his sons." This explains, also, the terror which seized Herod that night when the tidings reached him that the King of the Jews had been born. What pictures would be conjured up by his evil conscience, filled with accusing victims. This new King might mean the rallying point of a subjected people whom he had dominated so long. This new King, he thought, might later come like a flaming vengeance sweeping the country before him. Herod knew that that helpless newborn baby lying somewhere in Bethlehem was a threat to all he stood for. No wonder he was troubled.

Well, newborn babies are always troublesome to some people because they have to be indoctrinated with approved delusions and prejudices and accepted hatreds. Babies are ever to be feared for there is always a chance they will grow up believing the truths of God and practicing the Sermon on the mount and the Beatitudes. Children don’t hate by themselves. Adults must teach them to hate. And Christian voices must, therefore, keep repeating to children that love is stronger than hate and that the peacemakers shall be called the children of God.

The newborn Christ Child was troublesome to Herod because he spelled danger. Herod saw him more as a ballistic weapon than a wonderful baby. How do we see the Christ Child? Is he just an appealing baby or a dangerous power?

Some people are content to keep Christ in the cradle all his life and all their lives. As Sir Knights we have been called to follow a great Captain, but sometimes we follow Him afar off, so that we do not really see him as He is. If at Christmas we see only a blissful baby we are lacking in vision. The people who were a part of that first Christmas did not see only an infant in a manger. According to the gospel of Matthew, Joseph saw, not only a speechless child, he saw "Immanuel"—God With Us. Dr. Luke says, that Mary saw not only her beloved baby, but the Son of God. Elizabeth speaks of him as "My Lord," and Zacharias called him "The Highest." When the shepherds came to the stable they saw not only a tiny baby but a Saviour who was Christ the Lord. The Wise Men who came to Bethlehem saw not only a baby boy but the King of Jews. The prophet Simeon saw not a tiny child in his arms but a "Light to lighten the Gentiles." Anna, a prophetess, gave thanks for more than a cute child. She saw him as the redemption of the people of Jerusalem.

Herod saw the child as a menacing danger. He trembled! Why? Because the birth of that child
brought a new conception of man into the world—the conception of the supreme worth of human personality. The Bethlehem baby was the initial pledge of that belief. Governments may declare that man is only an animal with a vertical spine or a piece of cosmic scum, but they cannot destroy the belief that came that first Christmas for it is rooted in the deepest reality of things. Christ believed that every person is of value to God; that the Heavenly Father is interested in every person; and that every person should be kind to every other person. He taught the gospel of reconciliation that asks us to forgive those who spitefully use us. We hear his command to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and bind up the wounds of the afflicted. Christ’s way was one of generosity and gentleness. And in that he exercised and still exercises the most potent spell on the human heart.

The essential truth of the Christmas story is that the baby grew to be a man—a challenging man, who demands nothing less than a one-man revolution within every one of us. He challenges us to cooperate with every agency working for the enrichment of personality and to eliminate from our international life everything that destroys the mind and morals of humanity. There are today, more than ever before, the pagans of fear and frustration, selfishness and materialism to fight against.

There are today the infidels of indifference, immorality and irresponsibility to be overcome. There are today, the Saracens of insidious living and destroyers of the Word of God to be challenged. There are the false and godless ideologies to be driven back. Our blessed Immanuel invades our world as a dangerous disturber, calling for a complete change within the heart of man. May we, at this sacred season, renew our vows to go forth with a fresh vision of Christ and the Templar possibilities for all of Christendom. May this Christmas season be our invitation to “go and see” the wonder and the danger of the Christ Child—and then, like the wise men of old, go back a New Way.

“Christians Awake” Logs More Miles

Grand Master Brucker’s filmed address, “Christians Awake,” continues to receive heavy booking throughout the Grand Encampment jurisdiction. From Washington to Florida, and from Maine to California—plus Tokyo—prints of the film have been shown to an estimated 10,000 Sir Knights and friends. Seven library prints were shuttled to an amazing variety of destinations until one of the prints succumbed to wear and tear, making it necessary to withdraw it from circulation. The six remaining prints have bookings extending through June of 1966, although prints of the film still can be secured for additional showings by contacting the Chairman of the Committee on Public Relations, Paul Rodenhauser, 1134 Manor Street, Columbia, Pennsylvania 17512.

In addition to the six library prints, each R.E. Department Commander has a film print of the address for special use in his Department.
## Knight Templar Subscriptions Pass 26,000 Mark

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Departments</th>
<th>Membership July, 1964</th>
<th>Quota</th>
<th>Subscriptions Nov. 23</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NORTH ATLANTIC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>25,981</td>
<td>2,598</td>
<td>1,112</td>
<td>42.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>13,331</td>
<td>1,333</td>
<td>1,249</td>
<td>93.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>3,422</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>111.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>3,389</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>134.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District of Columbia</td>
<td>1,910</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>112</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>4,704</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>110.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>2,516</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>35.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>5,692</td>
<td>569</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>45.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>1,670</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>73.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts &amp; Rhode Island</td>
<td>14,663</td>
<td>1,466</td>
<td>685</td>
<td>46.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH EASTERN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>6,593</td>
<td>659</td>
<td>537</td>
<td>81.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>6,713</td>
<td>671</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>104.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>5,363</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>754</td>
<td>140.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>11,739</td>
<td>1,174</td>
<td>738</td>
<td>62.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>7,892</td>
<td>789</td>
<td>586</td>
<td>74.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>6,818</td>
<td>682</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>55.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>9,918</td>
<td>992</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>33.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>8,958</td>
<td>898</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>41.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAST CENTRAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>11,787</td>
<td>1,179</td>
<td>1,632</td>
<td>138.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>13,117</td>
<td>1,312</td>
<td>1,313</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>26,937</td>
<td>2,694</td>
<td>1,440</td>
<td>53.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>6,125</td>
<td>613</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>67.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>8,519</td>
<td>852</td>
<td>708</td>
<td>83.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHERN CENTRAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>2,150</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>50.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>3,238</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>48.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>5,471</td>
<td>647</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>56.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>10,513</td>
<td>1,051</td>
<td>698</td>
<td>66.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>11,005</td>
<td>1,101</td>
<td>1,181</td>
<td>107.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>7,174</td>
<td>717</td>
<td>772</td>
<td>107.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>16,972</td>
<td>1,697</td>
<td>1,060</td>
<td>62.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH CENTRAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>4,150</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>76.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>3,503</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>57.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>14,801</td>
<td>1,480</td>
<td>678</td>
<td>45.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>11,691</td>
<td>1,169</td>
<td>856</td>
<td>73.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>5,342</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>61.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>30,357</td>
<td>3,036</td>
<td>1,034</td>
<td>34.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH PACIFIC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>3,567</td>
<td>357</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>65.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>2,541</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>49.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>2,045</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>94.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>5,363</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>63.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>5,035</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>47.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>4,482</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>43.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH PACIFIC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>23,153</td>
<td>2,316</td>
<td>1,368</td>
<td>59.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>751</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>212.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>1,236</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>112.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>1,538</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>186.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>3,215</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>57.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER</td>
<td>3,255</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>67.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Totals: 38,068 38,708 26,267 67.8%

*—Over quota, but many addressed outside district.
North Central Department

... composed of seven Grand Jurisdictions (Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota), has a total membership of 5,650 Sir Knights;

... ranks second in Knight Templar Magazine subscriptions, October, 1965, total being 4,058, or 73% of quota;

... in 1964 made 213 loans to needy students in the amount of $163,750.00;

... with only 119 Life Sponsors of the Knight Templar Eye Foundation, is activating an extensive campaign to meet its quota in this humanitarian area.

ILLINOIS

... will sponsor a Knight Templar Day at the American Passion Play, Sunday, May 1, 1966. Illinois Templars has its own humanitarian project, the Illinois Knights Templar Home for the Aged Infirn, Inc., supported entirely by voluntary contributions. Since 1953, when the home was opened, Illinois Sir Knights have invested approximately half a million dollars in this special project.

IOWA

... has reached 106% of its Knight Templar Magazine quota, and is still going strong. Keep it up, Iowa!

MINNESOTA

... schools of instruction are being sponsored throughout the Jurisdiction, in connection with District Meetings, supervised by Grand Officers, in an effort to increase its membership.

NEBRASKA

... in each of the past two years, has made a net gain of twenty-four in its total membership.

NORTH DAKOTA

... is concentrating its effort on Templar membership, subscriptions for the Knight Templar Magazine, and Life Sponsors of the Eye Foundation. Fine work!

SOUTH DAKOTA

... in addition to Templar membership, Knight Templar Magazine, and Eye Foundation sponsorship promotions, has a special project of assistance to Job's Daughters.

WISCONSIN

... is proud of its part in the promulgation of the Wisconsin Conference for Masonic Unity and the Wisconsin York Rite Association. It has reached 110% of its Knight Templar Magazine quota.
Glenne R. McArthur was born October 2, 1893, on a farm near Janesville, Wisconsin, where he obtained his high school education. He graduated from Beloit College, Beloit, Wisconsin, with an A.B. degree in 1916.

Sir Knight McArthur was a high school science instructor at Evansville, Wisconsin, for one year, immediately after which he served 26 months in the U. S. Army Signal Corps, and was discharged as a 1st Lieutenant. From 1923-1925 he served as an instructor in economics and business administration at Huron College, Huron, South Dakota; from 1925-1930 he was secretary-manager of the Huron, South Dakota, Chamber of Commerce. Since that time he has been associated in various capacities with the Northwestern Public Service Company, Huron, South Dakota, including the presidency of the Company from 1955-1958, and the vice-chairman of its board of directors since said date.

Sir Knight McArthur is a life long member of the Congregational Church and has served his church in many capacities.

He is the first South Dakota business executive to be elected to honorary membership in Beta Gamma Sigma at the University of South Dakota; he has been a member of the board of trustees of Huron College since 1933 and was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by said College in May, 1956.

He has worked with the Boy Scouts of America and is the recipient of the Silver Beaver award; he was awarded the Honorary Legion of Honor by the International Supreme Council of DeMolay; he is a Past Governor of Kiwanis International, having served the Minnesota-Dakotas District in 1950.

Sir Knight McArthur served as Worthy Grand Patron of South Dakota in 1940. He was elected Grand Sovereign of the Red Cross of Constantine and served during 1961-1962.

He has served as High Priest of his Chapter, Illustrious Master of his Council, Grand Commander of South Dakota in 1943, has served as a member of various Grand Encampment Committees from 1946 to the present time, having been chairman of the Grand Encampment Committee on Patriotic Activities 1961-1964. He was Department Commander of the North Central Department from 1958-1961, a post which he is now holding for the second time. He is also serving as a member of the York Rite Commission on Unity.
Charles E. Bostick
Grand Commander
Illinois

Born: Springfield, Illinois, December 10, 1913. Great-great-grandmother on mother's side was a sister of Mary Todd Lincoln.

Married: July 14, 1935, to former Genevieve Morris of Springfield; no children.


Claude K. Bradley
Grand Commander
Iowa

Born: Humeston, Iowa, January 14, 1905.

Affiliation: Uptown Lions Club, presently First Vice President. Member of Immanuel Methodist Church and member of the Finance Commission.

Business: State Tax Commission Title—Assistant Director of the Income Tax Division.

Masonic: Raised a Master Mason in Pioneer Lodge No. 22, Des Moines, Iowa, March 6, 1926. Exalted a Royal Arch Macon in Ascalon Chapter No. 139, December 2, 1948, and the same year received the Royal and Select Master degrees in Alpha Council No. 1, Knighted in Temple Commandery No. 4, January, 1949, Commander in 1955. He also served as High Priest, 1956, and Illustrious Master, 1963, as well as Patron of Acanthus Chapter,
Wayne W. Reese

Born: Sterling, Nebraska, February 15, 1908.
Married: October 8, 1949, to Mrs. Fern Dickson Knotek. One daughter, Mrs. LeRoy C. Butcherus.
Graduated from High School at Sterling, Nebraska, Attended the University of Nebraska from 1926 to 1929 and Worsham's College of Mortuary Science at Chicago in 1930 and 1931.
Affiliation: Member of St. Paul Methodist Church; served on the Official Board and has been an usher for many years. Past President of the Nebraska Funeral Directors Association. Member of Kiwanis Club. Member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Lincoln Lodge No. 80, B.P.O.E.
Business: Secretary-Treasurer of Hodgman-Splain Mortuary in Lincoln. Has been associated with this firm since student days.
Masonic: Lancaster Lodge No. 54, Lincoln, W.M., 1941. Lincoln Chapter No. 6, receiving the Order of High Priesthood in December, 1947, served as High Priest in 1948. Lincoln Council No. 4. Life Member of Nebraska Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters. Received the Orders in 1947, in Mt. Moriah Commandery No. 4; Eminent Commandery in 1956. Appointed Grand Captain of the Guard on April 26, 1957; elected and installed Grand Com-

Garrett H. Sohle

Grand Commander
Minnesota


Garrett H. Sohle

Military: Veteran of World War One.
Business: Former Mayor of the City of Osakis, Minnesota. Freight and Passenger Agent of the Great Northern Railway Company with 48 years service.

VIRON F. SCHUMAKER

Born: Lindenwood, Illinois, December 8, 1908.
Married: He, his wife, Dorothy, and daughter, Debarah, reside at 512 N. Central Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota.
Affiliation: Member Memorial Lutheran Church. Past President of Rotary, Past Commander of American Legion. Received the State

BEN J. WESTDAL

Married: June 4, 1935, to former Alice Blackmore. One son, married, recently returned from Germany after serving three years in the Army.

Attended the University of Minnesota. Was in Stationery and Office Supply business from 1932 to 1957. After disposing of the business the family took an extended tour of Europe while in good health and young enough to enjoy the trip. A serious illness three years ago forced him into semi-retirement.

Served two terms as Director of the Chamber of Commerce and was on the board which originated the local Community Chest and others.

VIRON F. SCHUMAKER

Grand Commander
South Dakota

BEN J. WESTDAL

Grand Commander
North Dakota

SHRINE. He is Prefect of St. Simeon Conclave of the Order of Red Cross of Constantine. Past Patron of Capital City Chapter No. 39, O.E.S.

ROBERT E. BILLINGS

Born: Clintonville, Wisconsin, September 14, 1917.

Married: October 12, 1941, to former Jane Kelly at Watertown.

Affiliation: Member of Christ Congregational Church (U.C.C.) of Clintonville. Has served as deacon, as trustee for nine years and currently as Chairman of the finance committee. Life member of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, a life-long member of the Clintonville Riverside Golf Club, an organizer of the Junior Chamber of Commerce in Clintonville, member of the Inter-City Shrine Club.

Attended the Clintonville Public Schools graduating in 1935, the University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh and the University of Wisconsin at Madison.


Legionnaire of the year Award in 1959. Twelve years of work for Crippled Children Society as County Chairman, State Director, Vice President and now President of the State Society. Six years on County Board of Education, now President, Vice President of Local Chapter of Izaak Walton.

Business: Sir Knight Schumaker is a practicing Optometrist.

Educated at Huron College, Huron, South Dakota, and the Illinois College of Optometry, Chicago. He holds the degrees of Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Optometry and for 3 years was national Vice President of his Alumni Association. He has served his profession as Treasurer for three years, President for two years, secretary for three years, and in the South Dakota State Board of Optometry as Vice President for one year, Secretary for three years, and President for two years. At the present time he is Vice President in charge of the Department of Laws and Ethics.

Centennial of Templary’s Marching Hymn
By BURT D. PEARSON, P.G.C., Virginia, Minnesota

Onward, Christian soldiers
Marching as to war,
With the Cross of Jesus
Going on before.
Christ the royal Master
Leads against the foe;
Forward into battle,
See, His banners go!

Is there a Sir Knight in all the
land whose pulse has not been
quickened, his frame lifted and his
spirits exalted when—footsore and
weary in procession or parade—
the stirring strains of “Onward,
Christian Soldiers” came to him
as surcease for the fatigue of body
and challenge to raise ever higher
Templary’s banner, In Hoc Signo
Vinces? It is the marching song of
the Order, just as it is the march-
ing hymn for the whole body of
the Christian Host.

“Onward, Christian Soldiers”
has long been the “battle hymn” of
Templary and of the Christian
Church. How long? The record is
silent. It is as though the hymn
has always been with us—from
Templary’s birth, but this is not
so. Authored 100 years ago by the
Reverend Sabine Baring-Gould, it
began as a marching song for chil-
dren.

When the Reverend Baring-
Gould on Whitmonday, 1865, sat
up most of the night to compose
the words for what has become
an intensely moving hymn, he
little realized that he was writing
a sacred piece destined, some day,
to be sung throughout the English-
speaking world — and beyond.
Humbly was born the hymn, “On-
ward, Christian Soldiers.”

The Reverend Baring-Gould had
come to the Established Church at

Horbury-Brig, Yorkshire, En-
gland, as a young curate. It is in-
dicated that his first concern was
for the welfare of the children who
were employed in the community’s
woolen mills. Children were a fac-
tor in production of goods and
services in those days. Family
cupboards would have been bare
but for their employment—fortu-
nately, not necessary today.

These children, as well as their
parents, were the Reverend Bar-
ing-Gould’s charges. Throughout
the week, he ministered to his
small congregation. On Sundays,
his bachelor quarters were con-
verted into a place of assembly.
Evenings were given over to night
school. Here, the boys and girls
of his parish learned to read and
write. Many were encouraged to
seek higher education, the better
to serve God, country and society.
The Reverend Baring-Gould’s im-
print upon his time was exceed-
ingly great.

It was for the benefit of the
children that a church festival was
arranged by him on a May day in
1865. The date in the calendar of
the church was Whitmonday. The
children were to parade to a neigh-
boring town to join with other
boys and girls in an annual re-
ligious celebration. “If only there
was something they could sing as
they marched,” the young pastor
thought, “the way would not seem
so long.”

He searched for something suit-
able, but failed to find what he
wanted. It was then that he de-
cided to write his own marching
song. It required the greater part
of the night to compose an accept-
able draft. On the morrow, the
pilgrimage of his boys and girls was made the lighter and happier by "Onward, Christian Soldiers." Thus, was the hymn born. Originally, he called it a "Hymn for Procession With Cross and Banners."

Captioned "The Church's Great Marching Hymn," The War Cry (Salvation Army publication), said in a recently-printed tribute to "Onward, Christian Soldiers":

"The Reverend Baring-Gould did not think his 'marching stanzas' would outlast the day of the festival, for he afterwards confessed, 'Certainly, nothing has surprised me more than its popularity.'

"Perhaps, the young parson's stanzas never could have gained their lasting appeal without the contribution of another brilliant young Englishman. In the year 1871, the rising musical genius, Sir Arthur Seymour Sullivan, was the organist of a church in London. When he took it into his head to bring out a new church hymnal, he found it no trouble at all to write new tunes when the old ones did not please him.

"As yet, 'Onward, Christian Soldiers' had never been given a musical setting of its own. However, when Baring-Gould's lines appeared in the Church Times of London, they must have caught Sullivan's fancy. He wrote a tune for them—'St. Gertrude'—and the hymn made its first appearance in print when his new hymnal, Church Hymns With Tunes, was published in 1872.

"Happily, Dr. Baring-Gould lived to see his verses come into their own. By the time he died at the age of ninety in 1924, he was well aware of what a firm hold 'Onward, Christian Soldiers' had taken on Protestant churchgoers. His hymn had become a universal favorite all over Christendom.

"The same thing is not quite true of Sir Arthur Sullivan. He was only fifty-eight when he died in 1900, so he never came to know that his most ambitious work, his opera 'Ivanhoe,' would be forgotten. . . . Sir Arthur lies buried where choir boys have never ceased to sing his music, in St. Paul's Cathedral in London."

In "The Story of Christian Hymnody," the author, Dr. E. E. Ryden, makes this epic comment about "Onward, Christian Soldiers":

"We are reminded throughout this hymn of Paul's military imagery in the sixth chapter of Ephesians, where he tells us that 'our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in heavenly places,' and admonishes us to put on 'the whole armor of God.' We also recall the same apostle's exhortation to Timothy to 'war the good warfare,' and to 'fight the good fight of faith.'"

"Onward, Christian Soldiers" appeals to consecrated Knights Templar because it is a militant affirmation of the heroic character of the Christian life. It is a summons to Sir Knights everywhere to put quality and motivation into their lives. It is a charge to true followers of Christ that they sit not with folded hands, if they would honor aright their pledge to Him as the 'Great Captain of our Salvation.'"
San Diego Commandery Sponsors Public Investiture of De Molay Legion on Honor

L. to R.: Lloyd E. Griffin; Paul E. Brown; George E. Bryans; Wm. D. Tucker; Homer E. Rathbun; Wilber M. Brucker, Grand Master; Frederick S. Weed; Robert M. Rewick and George G. Verbrycz.

Approximately 350 persons attended the banquet and ceremonies held on October 23 at the Scottish Rite Masonic Memorial Center in San Diego, at which time the Southern California Preceptory DeMolay Legion of Honor conferred the Degrees upon the following outstanding Masonic leaders: Legion of Honor: Robert M. Rewick, P.G.C. and Dept. Commander; and Frederick S. Weed, Former Inspector, Grand Lodge; Honorary Legion of Honor: Paul E. Brown, George E. Bryans, Lloyd E. Griffith, and George G. Verbrycz.

Three of California’s P.G.C.’s and Legion of Honor members, William U. Remensperger, Ralph H. Slocum, and Eggert Rohwer, assisted in the investiture.

Wilber M. Brucker, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment and an active member of the International Supreme Council Order of DeMolay, was the main speaker. In writing to the Editor of this magazine, relating to this outstanding event, Sir Knight Brucker states: “I think that San Diego Commandery No. 25 did itself proud by sponsoring that event. They had a very large crowd at the Banquet in the new Masonic Service Center in San Diego at 6 P. M., with all the Masonic organizations, with their top officers and staffs present. The Ladies were there in great numbers also. The Eminent Commander of San Diego No. 25 was the Master of Ceremonies—and he did a grand job also in taking charge of all ar-
rangements. After my talk at the Banquet we all adjourned to the Auditorium where the DeMolay Investiture took place. Everyone stayed and a large number of young men and young women added their presence, making a huge crowd that filled the Auditorium. It was a glamorous affair—with San Diego No. 25 forming the Honor Guard. The work done by the representatives of the Supreme Body of DeMolay was outstanding

—and the quality of those who were invested with the highest honor of the DeMolay added to the occasion, because they were all outstanding citizens of the community. San Diego Commandery No. 25 is to be highly commended for its initiative and for its handling of all the plans and details for what, in my opinion, was one of the most dignified and constructive Masonic-oriented meetings it has been my pleasure to attend.”

What They Say About The Knight Templar Eye Foundation

(Letters recently received by Walter A. DeLamater, Executive Director)

Gentlemen:
This man had his surgery (right eye—cataract), some 2-3 weeks ago, and was delivered glasses about a week ago.
He obtained a perfect result, which was so dramatic, because he could not see to walk even, before his surgery—the first real excitement we have had for some time. When they are practically totally blind, then can see—it makes quite a furore.
He and his family are very happy, and grateful. (Also myself.)
He will be followed from time to time, from now on, of course.
Thank you for letting me work with him.
Very truly and with best wishes,
J. V. Gwin, M.D., M.S.
Laurel, Mississippi
-:-

Ill. Sir:
The “Thank You” hardly conveys the feeling I have towards the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, and that the sight that has been brought to me, whereas I could not read even the large print, today I can read the fine print even in the phone directory and the

“Thank You” should also go to J. Conrad Gomery and the Nurse at his office who treated me with the kindness and gentleness, and for all this I am most grateful.
Sincerely,
Charles W. Stein
Detroit, Michigan
-:-

Gentlemen:
Please accept my very sincere and deep thanks for sponsoring my recent eye operation, by Dr. John F. Hollister, of Sacramento.
Without your help, I would of course gone blind, and your help has enabled me to once again enjoy life.
I am deeply appreciative, and thank you again so much. The operation appears to be a complete success.
Sincerely,
MRS. FRANCES E. GRANT,
Woodland, California.

Knight Templar Eye Foundation Sponsors have since June of this year, been increasing at the rate of approximately 125 per week. As of November 15, there were 6,826 Life Sponsors.
 Texarkana Commandery No. 64 of Texarkana, Texas, was host commandery for a six state conclave on November 6th. South Central Department Commander, Harvey C. Byrd of Waco, Texas, opened the Commandery at 9:00 A. M. and a team of The Order of The Red Cross from Little Rock, Arkansas, conferred the Order. A Malta team from Tyler, Texas, conferred the order of Malta; and the Grand Officers of the State of Texas conferred the Order of the Temple. There were 15 candidates from the several states in the class.


At the close of the day the Texarkana Commandery headed by Commander Larry A. Kirkland, hosted approximately 300 people at a banquet.

KENTUCKY UNIFIES ANNUAL YORK RITE MEETINGS

At the 148th Annual Convocation of the Grand R. A. Chapter of Kentucky, held in Louisville, October 19th and 20th, and the 138th Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Kentucky, held October 18th, both bodies voted to change the date of their annual meetings to coincide with that of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Kentucky.

The Grand Commandery, at the 118th Annual Conclave last May, voted to change the date of the annual conclave to September, providing the Grand Chapter and the Grand Council took similar action. This now has been done.

The three Grand York Rite
bodies will meet jointly for the first time in September, 1966, at a place to be designated. The Grand Commandery will hold its 119th Annual Conclave at Lexington in May, 1966, as scheduled.—Wylie B. Wendt, Kentucky Correspondent.

ST. JOHN COMMANDERY (Oklahoma) BOASTS 11 KYCH MEMBERS


In addition, St. John Commandery has as members two P.G.C.'s, Victor G. Heller and Oliver S. Willham, and James T. Thorne, who is now serving as G.C.G. of the Grand Commandery of Oklahoma.

(Editor's Note. Do any other Commanderies have a larger number of KYCH members?)

MASONS IN NEW YORK ENTERTAIN K. OF C.

L. to R.: Edward F. Cape, chairman of arrangements; Carlton A. Newton, J. W. of New Hope Lodge and a member of St. George's Commandery that helped in bringing together the K. of C. and Masons for this social evening; Rev. Dominic Papa who just recently returned from the Vatican and spoke on his experiences during his stay and work in Rome; John J. Zeloniski, deputy grand knight of the K. of C.; Eugene Civitella grand knight of the K. of C. and Carl Jenkins, a representative of the Niagara Mohawk Power Corp. who was the speaker of the evening and showed movies of the work of the electrical industry.
LURAY VIRGINIA HOLDS FESTIVAL

FESTIVAL CLASS

Virginia has had several successful Festivals so far this year. Pictured above is the Class which received the three Orders at Luray, Virginia, on Saturday, October 23, 1965 under the direction of Frank L. Roberson, P.C., Deputy Inspector General.

The outstanding feature of the occasion was the jurisdictional cooperation received from the Sir Knights of Maryland and the District of Columbia. Arlington Commandery conferred the Order of the Red Cross and Washington Commandery No. 1 of the District of Columbia conferred the Order of Malta in full form.

The 26 candidates were from Luray Commandery, Fairfax Commandery of Culpeper, Piedmont Commandery of Haymarket and Arlington Commandery all of Northern Virginia.—Joe R. Harris, P.G.C.

IN MEMORIAM

Florida
Ralph Garfield Reynolds, G.C., 1939—October 6, 1965

Illinois

Kentucky

Maryland
Grant Albert Wiebel, G.C., 1938—October 9, 1965

Oklahoma
Robert Harvey Jelley, D.G.C., 1965—November 9, 1965

Grand Master Brucker has granted a Special Dispensation for the formation of a new Commandery in Milan, Italy. The petition for a Dispensation was signed by eighteen Sir Knights, whose good standing was certified by Sir Knight Peter M. Rasmussen, Recorder of Heidelberg Commandery No. 2, Heidelberg, Germany.

The territorial limits for the Milan Commandery will be the country of Italy.
K.T. Series Of Auto License Plates
Reserved For Michigan Templars

Sir Knight Don Toaz, Chairman of the Hospitaler Fund Committee of St. Johns Commandery No. 24, St. Johns, Michigan, inaugurated a project in 1964 whereby the KT series of Michigan license plates will ultimately be issued only to Knights Templar and their families. The Michigan Department of State released to Michigan Knights Templar motorists via St. Johns Commandery some 3,229 license plates for the year of 1965. The goal for 1966 is 5,000 KT plates starting on November 1, and by 1967 is hoped all of the KT series will belong to Templars and families.

The 1966 Michigan plates, starting with KT 0001, will run to the highest number of requests received, after which the remaining series will go to the public. The Grand Commandery family will have the series of KT 0001 to KT 0099. Requests for specific numbers will be honored in the order received whenever possible. St. Johns Commandery’s Hospitaler Fund will receive all monies or donations made by the Templar family ordering their 1966 license plates through St. Johns Commandery less the actual State charge for the license plates.

It has been a tremendous undertaking, wrought with all kinds of problems, but the officers and Sir Knights of St. Johns Commandery believe it’s well worth it. The project’s success is directly attributable to extended cooperation by Templars of Michigan.

Sir Knight Don Toaz says the KT license plate idea has solidified their Commandery. They have all worked long and hard to make it a successful project and the Templars of Michigan appreciate the magnitude of the responsibility.

“WE NOTE IN REVIEW”

Congratulations are due the Sir Knights of Maryland for the successful beginning of another suburban Commandery, York No. 16 at Camp Springs, off the outer belt interstate around Washington, D. C. Dispensation granted July 15, 1964 to 99 Hyattsville members, charter May 12, 1965. In the interim, 25 affiliations and 27 knighted; Charter Membership, 149. Maryland is looking to the new population areas.

“WE NOTE IN REVIEW”

In the 1964-65 year, Kentucky instituted a program of sending a kit containing 13 pieces of educational and promotional material to each newly elected Commander.
THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas commemorates the most wonderful happening that ever befell the human race. Let us, in our joy, help to celebrate the birth of Jesus by passing on to others, the happiness that dwell within our own hearts.

The Spirit of Christmas belongs to everyone, and it is the sincere hope of the Officers of the Grand Encampment that happiness and prosperity find their way into the homes of all Sir Knights and their families, and remain with them always.

May a universal love, based upon principles set many years ago by the child from Bethlehem, descend upon the earth and give charity, happiness and everlasting peace to everyone. Merry Christmas!